

REMARKS

Claims 36-58 are pending in the present application.

1. The drawings stand objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). Examiner contends that the drawings do not show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. However, Applicant submits that the drawings do show every feature claimed.

Regarding claim 54, the Examiner contends that this claim does not show “the centrifugal separator carried by the vertical evacuation duct of the centrifugal separator”. Applicant submits that this feature is shown in Figures 25, 28, 28a, and 29. As shown in these Figures and described in the specification (p. 25, lines 14-18), the separator 2 is supported by the vertical evacuation tube 23.

Regarding claim 56, the Examiner contends that this claim does not show “the rear cage situated under the centrifugal separator”. Applicant submits that this feature is shown in Figures 27, 28, 28a, and 29. As shown in these Figures, the rear cage 3 is situated under the separator 2, which is in contrast to the embodiments shown in Figures 8-12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, and 26.

Regarding claim 57, Examiner contends that this claim does not show the “rear cage placed on concrete slabs”. Applicant submits that this feature is shown in Figures 25, 26, 27, and 28. As shown in these Figures and described in the specification (p. 25, lines 11-13), the rear cage 3 is placed on concrete slabs 9.

Regarding claim 58, Examiner contends that this claim does not show a “secondary separator placed between the main centrifugal separator and the rear cage”. Applicant submits that this feature is shown in Figures 22, 29, and 31. As shown in these Figures, these embodiments include a main and secondary separator 2 wherein the secondary separator is disposed between the main separator and the rear cage 3.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the Figures do include all the claimed features, and therefore, request that this objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

2. Claims 36-52 and 54-58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Baglione et al. (6,779,492).

Regarding independent claims 36-38 and 45, the Examiner contends that Baglione et al. discloses all the limitations of these claims. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection.

Specifically, claims 36-38 and 45 define the present invention as a circulating fluidized bed reactor that includes a reaction chamber, a centrifugal separator and a rear cage. The claimed invention further includes an acceleration duct that connects the reaction chamber and the centrifugal separator, wherein "at least part of the acceleration duct is inside the top of the reaction chamber." (emphasis added)

Applicant contends that Baglione et al. does not show such a circulating fluidized bed reactor as defined in claims 36-38 and 45. Baglione et al. shows a circulating fluidized bed reactor that includes an acceleration duct 24, 24' connecting the reaction chamber 12 to the separator 14, 14' (col. 7, lines 48-52). The Examiner contends that Baglione et al. shows a circulating fluidized bed reactor wherein "at least part of the acceleration duct is inside the top of the reaction chamber", as shown in Figure 10. Applicant, however, can find no showing of part of the acceleration duct 14,14' of Baglione et al. is inside the reaction chamber 12, as claimed by Applicant. To the contrary, Baglione et al. shows the acceleration duct 24, 24' disposed outside the reactor chamber as shown in Figures 1-3, 5, 8, 10, 11-13, 15 and 16. The Examiner finds the claimed feature in Figure 10, however, Applicant contends that Figure 10 shows the acceleration duct exterior to the reaction chamber 12. Applicant notes that Figure 10 shows "another variant in a side view analogous to those of FIGs. 5 and 8." (emphasis added) (col. 5, lines 22-23) Figs. 5 and 8 are side views of the embodiment shown in Fig. 3, which clearly shows the acceleration duct 14,14' as being exterior to the reaction chamber 12. Therefore, claims 36-38 and 45 are not anticipated by Baglione et al. for at least these reasons, and it is respectfully requested that these claims be reconsidered and allowed.

3. Claims 39-44, 46-52 and 54-58 variously depend on independent claims 136-38 and 45, and therefore, are not anticipated by Baglione et al. for at least the reasons provided hereinbefore. It is respectfully requested that these claims be reconsidered and allowed.

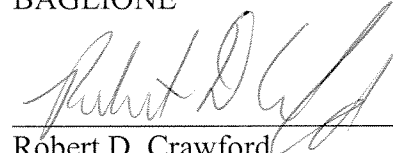
4. Applicant acknowledges that claim 52 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base

claims and any intervening claims. Applicants will wait until the conclusion of the prosecution of this application to amend this claim.

5. Applicant believes no fee is due, however, any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 03-2578 Order No. VA30408.

Respectfully submitted,

BAGLIONE

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert D. Crawford", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert D. Crawford
Registration No. 38,119

Date: November 20, 2007

Alstom Power Inc.
2000 Day Hill Road
Windsor, Connecticut 06095
Phone: (860) 285-9117
Fax: (860) 285-3515